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Attorney for Applicants

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/726,970  
Applicant : Craig B. Simpson et al.  
Filed : December 3, 2003  
  
TC/A.U. : 3644  
Examiner : (not yet assigned)  
  
Docket No. : 2029.2.4.2  
  
Customer No. : 21552

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicants and/or their attorneys and is being submitted so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the enclosed Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits.

Neither applicants nor their attorneys make any representation that any information disclosed herein may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103. Moreover, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the


information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, transmitted herewith are:

1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration; and
2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A, except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

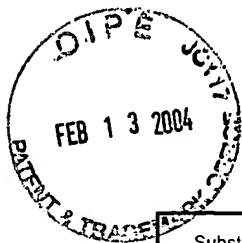
As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: February 10, 2004

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary)<br><br>Sheet 1 of 1 | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                  |
|   | Application Number       | 10/726,970       |
|   | Filing Date              | December 3, 2003 |
|   | First Named Inventor     | Craig B. Simpson |
|   | Group Art Unit           | 3644             |
|   | Examiner Name            |                  |
|   | Attorney Docket Number   | 2029.2.4.2       |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                       | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                        | U1                    | US-6,513,757                               | 02/04/2003                     | Amaoka et al.                                      |   |
|                        | U2                    | US-6,237,737                               | 05/29/2001                     | Amaoka et al.                                      |   |
|                        | U3                    | US-6,234,423                               | 05/22/2001                     | Hirahara et al.                                    |   |
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|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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